

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-11 (cancelled)

Claim 12 (new): A method for cleaning an incubator having temperature regulating means for regulating the temperature in a climatic chamber during an incubation process, the method involving disinfection of at least one of a climatic chamber and removable parts present in the climatic chamber during the incubation process, wherein the disinfection comprises a disinfecting heat treatment performed on the climatic chamber within the incubator using the temperature regulating means of the incubator provided for the incubation process.

Claim 13 (new): The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the temperature for the disinfecting heat treatment exceeds 55°C.

Claim 14 (new): The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein at least one of the climatic chamber and removable parts are heated between 58° to 65°C for at least 25 minutes.

Claim 15 (new): The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the temperature for the disinfecting heat treatment does not exceed 150°C.

Claim 16 (new): The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the temperature for the disinfecting heat treatment does not exceed 100°C.

Claim 17 (new): The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein at least one of the climatic chamber and removable parts are cleaned with water prior to the disinfection.

Claim 18 (new): An incubator comprising a climatic chamber and temperature regulating means for regulating the temperature in the climatic chamber during an incubation process, wherein the temperature regulating means are designed for disinfecting by means of a disinfecting heat treatment, wherein the disinfecting heat treatment is configured to heat at least one of the climatic chamber and removable parts therein at a temperature above 50°C.

Claim 19 (new): The incubator as claimed in claim 18, wherein the temperature regulating means are designed to heat the climatic chamber for the disinfecting heat treatment between 58° to 65°C for at least 25 minutes.

Claim 20 (new): The incubator as claimed in claim 19, wherein the temperature for the disinfecting heat treatment does not exceed 150°C

Claim 21 (new): The incubator as claimed in claim 19, wherein the temperature for the disinfecting heat treatment does not exceed 100°C.